

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## THE TICKET TO WORK AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACT OF 1998

**HON. JIM BUNNING**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. Speaker, today, on behalf of myself and BARBARA KENNELLY, I am introducing the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Act of 1998. This legislation helps Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability recipients return to a life of economic security and self-sufficiency.

Social Security programs are vital to all Americans. The disability program is particularly important because it protects workers and their families against severe financial hardship that occurs when workers sustain severe illnesses or disabling conditions that prevent them from working.

Due to advances in medicine, technology, and the field of rehabilitation, there are people who, despite serious disabilities, want to work and who could work if they were provided the kind of rehabilitation services they need. The disability program is like a big black hole—once people fall into the program they never seem to make their way out. In fact, less than 1 percent of disabled recipients ever leave the rolls because of work.

Our legislation is very simple. We remove many of the barriers that prevent individuals with disabilities from climbing out of that hole.

The consumer—the recipient with a disability—is number one. They choose the services they want from the providers they want. Generally, the provider of those services is paid for outcomes and long-term results. The payment process is designed to ensure that as many providers as possible are available to serve the consumer.

One of the primary obstacles facing disabled recipients who attempt to leave the Social Security rolls to work is the fear of losing health care. To help alleviate that fear, our bill will extend Medicare coverage for 2 additional years. This means that recipients would have Medicare coverage for a total of 6 years from the time they first make an attempt to work.

Due to the nature of their disability, many individuals incur extraordinary costs in trying to get a job and maintaining that job. This legislation creates a tax credit of 50 percent of impairment-related work expenses up to \$10,000 per year.

To better help consumers transition into work, the bill includes a requirement that SSA test a gradual offset of SSDI cash benefits by reducing monthly benefits \$1 for every \$2 in earnings over a determined level.

Through this legislation we are asking the Social Security Administration to become more than just a disability program administrator, we want them to be an ability program administrator. The Commissioner benefits from the counsel of an advisory panel, made up of consumers, providers, and employer representatives. And the program will be gradually

phased in, closely monitored, and thoroughly evaluated over time.

I am excited about the possibilities this bill creates for individuals with disabilities. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this effort.

## SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY: THE TICKET TO WORK AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACT OF 1998

**HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing, along with Rep. JIM BUNNING, bipartisan legislation to assist people with disabilities in returning to work. The Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Act will help to open the door to employment for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries.

Many of these beneficiaries would like to return to employment but find too many obstacles standing between them and a job. These obstacles often include the need for vocational rehabilitation, job training, and other assistance in finding and retaining a job. In addition, beneficiaries face the disincentives to work brought on by the loss of disability benefits and health care coverage. All of these stand in the way of a person who wants to leave the Social Security disability system for work.

Rep. BUNNING and I have worked on a bipartisan approach to reducing these disincentives. The legislation would afford beneficiaries three important bridges to employment. First, the legislation would provide SSDI and SSI beneficiaries a much greater choice of vocational rehabilitation providers, who help train and find jobs for individuals with disabilities. The bill would offer to disabled beneficiaries a ticket to work which could be presented to either a private vocational rehabilitation provider of the beneficiary's choice or a State vocational rehabilitation agency.

The bill would allow a beneficiary to choose the provider which best suits his or her needs and is most likely to assist that individual effectively in returning to work. Providers would be paid under an incentive system that would permit them to share in the savings to the government when the individual returns to work and is no longer receiving disability benefits.

Second, the bill addresses the principle fear facing disabled beneficiaries—the loss of health insurance coverage. The bill would offer Medicare coverage for at least 6 years for those individuals who leave the rolls to return to work. This is a 2-year extension over current law.

Finally, the legislation would make work pay. It would convert the current income tax deduction for the cost of work expenses related to one's impairment into a credit. The credit would be 50 percent of impairment-related ex-

penses up to \$10,000 in expenses. This would have the effect of permitting those who do not itemize to take into account the extraordinary work expenses, such as specialized computers or personal assistants, resulting from their disability. This is intended to cushion the blow of lost disability benefits and level the employment playing field between those people with disabilities and those without.

Leaving the disability rolls is no easy task. It is my hope that this bill will help to build a bridge to employment for people with disabilities. Every person who returns to work means one more person with a brighter future, and it means lower cost to the government. I hope our colleagues will join us in the bipartisan effort.

## FCC'S ROLE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, one of the intended outcomes of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was that telecommunications services would be universally available at reasonable and affordable prices. To ensure that would happen, the Act provided for all telecommunications carriers to contribute to a universal fund subsidy. The FCC's attempts to implement this portion of the bill have been at best ineffective. Until the FCC begins to seriously take steps to ensure support of rural and residential service, we cannot consider this part of the job finished.

Another responsibility of the FCC, as set forth in the Telecommunications Act, was to implement a program assisting schools, libraries and health care facilities in entering the information age. However, Congress did not intend for this to be a tax and grant program. The entire issue of how the FCC is implementing this program is now being considered by Congressional committees. I am concerned that the FCC did not adequately consider the negative impact on the consumer or Congressional intent before implementing this program.

The FCC must understand that their role is not to rewrite the Act, but to implement the Act as it was written.

HONORING MATT CONWAY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring a remarkable young man to your attention and to the attention of my colleagues in the House of Representatives.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Matt Conway is a constituent from Florham Park, New Jersey and is a person affected by a developmental disability. I have had the opportunity to meet with him on several occasions and learn from him about some of the obstacles facing individuals with developmental disabilities. He has demonstrated to me how some of these difficulties can be overcome and I am proud to say that he has educated me on what can be done to help more individuals do the same. Matt is certainly a worthy advocate for himself and others.

On April 17, 1998, Matt will be one of 35 persons to be honored by the Foundation for Exceptional Children's Yes I Can! Program. The program honors outstanding achievements of children and youth with disabilities. Matt will receive his award in the area of employment.

Matt was nominated for this award by his teachers, friends and relatives and was selected out of hundreds of qualified nominees. I would like to join his group of supporters in congratulating him for what he has already accomplished and encouraging him on to even greater heights.

I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating Matt and wishing him future successes.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an institution in California's 43rd Congressional District that is celebrating a milestone this week. La Sierra University is celebrating 75 years of service to students in the Riverside area, as well as students worldwide. La Sierra University has shown a strong commitment to the education of our community and I would like to especially recognize Lawrence T. Geraty, the university's current president. Mr. Geraty's leadership and dedication will prepare La Sierra University for the transition into the next millennium.

La Sierra first opened in 1922 as La Sierra Academy with 84 students. In 1927, the school became Southern California Junior College, and, in 1939, the school was renamed La Sierra College with the addition of a variety of four-year programs. After merging with Loma Linda University in 1967, La Sierra College became the La Sierra campus of Loma Linda University. La Sierra once again became an independent institution in February 1990, assuming its current title as La Sierra University. In the meantime, the professional Schools of Education, Business and Management, and Religion were added.

The campus is currently expanding by developing an additional 350 acres of land. La Sierra University has also added a variety of new programs, including offering a Masters degree in Business Administration and a minor in gender studies, with their curriculum continuing to grow. They were recently chosen by the John Templeton Foundation for its 1997-1998 Honor Roll of Character-Building Colleges. They also recently received an accreditation from the National Association of Schools

of Music for their music department, as well as certification from the Western Association of Colleges and Schools. La Sierra University is also home to the four-time international championship team of students competing in the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE). SIFE is a national organization which is supported by the Walton family, founders of Wal-Mart, that encourages entrepreneurship and community service by students interested in business. SIFE is an instrumental organization on campus, organizing tutoring, recycling and other service programs. In addition to these activities, SIFE has also been involved in several business ventures. As a result, La Sierra University gives students the atmosphere, guidance, and moral foundation needed to succeed in today's competitive job market.

I would like to commend La Sierra University for their commitment to the worldwide scholastic community. Over 1,500 students are currently enrolled, representing more than 60 countries. I encourage and support La Sierra University in continuing to set and meet its outstanding goals in the area of education for decades to come. On behalf of the residents of the 43rd Congressional District, I would like to thank La Sierra University for its contributions and dedicated service to the community, and wish them great success with their 75th anniversary celebration.

TRIBUTE TO GRANT R. BRIMHALL

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Grant Brimhall, who is retiring after over three decades of public service.

Marian Wright Edelman once said that "We must not, in trying to think about how we can make a big difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make which, over time, add up to big differences that we often cannot foresee." I can think of no better tribute to Grant. Everyday for the past 20 years, he has come into work with the purpose of improving our community. Prior to his position as City Manager of Thousand Oaks, Grant served as City Manager of Glendora and as Deputy City Manager of Claremont.

There is not a single aspect of life in Thousand Oaks that has not been enhanced under Grant's innovative leadership. Community services orchestrated by Grant include the development of the Main Library on Janss Road and Newbury Park Branch, two of the busiest libraries in the nation. His involvement was instrumental in the establishment of the Teen and Senior Center, which provides programs for youth and seniors of the community. Grant's efforts have positively affected our economy as several companies have expanded, along with the upscale commercial revitalization of several shopping centers. Perhaps most impressive among Grant's accomplishments is the fact that Thousand Oaks ranks among the top three cities with the lowest crime rate in the nation on an annual basis.

Grant has worked to improve the aesthetics of our community as well, with a comprehensive pavement management program to prioritize street maintenance programs. Other

priorities included extensive undergrounding of utilities and landscaped medians and parkways.

Taken individually, it is easy to appreciate the work Grant has done for our community, and the programs already mentioned do not begin to scratch the surface of his accomplishments. But as we look back over his twenty years of service to our community, we realize the overwhelming impact Grant has had on our daily lives. Thanks to his leadership, courage and dedication, our community is an ideal place to raise a family, start a business or become involved in community activities.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring retiring City Manager of Thousand Oaks, Grant Brimhall. He will be long remembered for the outstanding services he has provided for the citizens of Los Angeles.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes 40, 41, 42 and 43 had I been present I would have voted yes. I was unavoidably detained in Texas as a result of my primary election on Tuesday, March 10th.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. HELEN CHENOWETH**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote 18, final passage of H.R. 424, I was recorded as voting "yea."

I ask that it be reflected in the appropriate place in the RECORD that I wish to be recorded as voting "nay" on this rollcall vote.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL J. WALL

**HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Daniel J. Wall of Sacramento, California, one of California's most effective advocates in the State Capitol. Dan will be leaving the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). On March 16, 1998 after serving that organization for 13 years.

Dan is CSAC's deputy director for Revenue and Taxation and Federal Affairs. He is responsible for advocacy on revenue and taxation issues and for coordinating the Sacramento end of the association's federal efforts. Dan will be leaving CSAC to become the chief advocate for Los Angeles County in Sacramento.

As a former California county supervisor, I had the pleasure of working with Dan on a variety of public finance issues. He displays a level of determination and commitment to county government that few can match. Individuals who work with Dan are impressed with

his breadth of knowledge on complex revenue and tax legislation, his cheerful demeanor, his keen intellect, and his dancing prowess. Viewed as a real champion of county government, Dan is widely admired and respected by members of both political parties.

Although Dan was born in Texas, he was raised and educated in northern California. He received his bachelor of arts degree in economics from St. Mary's College and a master of arts degree in economics from San Francisco State University. His particular focus was in the areas of public finance, international trade, and statistics.

On a personal level, a distinguishing attribute of Dan's is his appreciation of fine cuisine and superior fine wines from California. As a winemaker, his recognition and enjoyment of quality wines is particularly close to my heart. Dan also is regarded by many as a real connoisseur of oriental food, especially the increasingly popular Japanese dish, sushi. His ability to locate some of the most interesting sushi establishments in virtually any community is well-documented. He was always able to direct visiting elected officials to the best of Sacramento.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Dan Wall for his tireless efforts on behalf of California's 58 counties. It is his unique and special qualities as a person and professional advocate that warrants his recognition. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Dan many more years of success in representing and protecting the interests of county government.

#### PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM HOSTAGE TAKING

**HON. SUE W. KELLY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to address a problem that is plaguing our Nation—children being taken hostages. Far too many scenarios have been documented in which children are exposed to violence, emotional trauma or physical harm at the hands of adults.

For example, in New York, a woman's estranged husband took her and their three children hostage at the point of a loaded shotgun. He held them for nearly four hours, and at one point, he even allegedly traded his seven-year-old son for a pack of cigarettes.

In Texas, a man took 80 children hostage at an area day care facility, including two of his children. They were held at gunpoint and released over a 30-hour period before the standoff was brought to a non-violent conclusion.

In Florida, a suspected drug addict and murderer held two children, ages two and four, hostage for two-and-a-half days. An entire Orlando neighborhood was evacuated during the standoff. Only when he threatened to use the children as human shields did a SWAT team rescue the children in a raid that resulted in the death of the suspect.

In Baltimore, a man broke into a second-floor apartment, stabbing a young mother and holding her nine-month-old child hostage for two hours before a Quick Response Team could rescue the baby and apprehend the suspect.

Situations like these are "unacceptable", and should not be tolerated by anyone. All over the country, children are being used as pawns in actions played by violent adults. We in Congress must do our part to help prevent these scenarios from developing in the first place.

My legislation will give new protections to children—our Nation's most precious resource. I have joined forces with Senators OLYMPIA SNOWE to establish the strictest punishments for those who would evade arrest or obstruct justice by using children as hostages. This bill will toughen penalties against any person who takes a child, 18 years or age or younger, hostage in order to resist any officer or court of the United States, or to compel the Federal Government to do or to abstain from any act. Such a person would serve a minimum of ten years to a maximum of death, depending on the extent of injury to the child.

Please join me in this important effort to protect the lives and well-being of our Nation's young. I hope that together we can make our Nation a safer place for everyone, especially those in our society least able to protect themselves.

#### MR. ADD PENFIELD'S EULOGY TO LEE JAY STONE

**HON. HOWARD COBLE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, a legendary broadcaster from the Sixth District of North Carolina, recently eulogized another legend from our district. His words were so moving, I wanted to share them with my colleagues.

The broadcaster, Mr. Add Penfield, spoke so eloquently about Lee Jay Stone, a man who was more than just a football coach. Stone, the longtime head coach at Asheboro High School, was a football institution. Lee died on January 27, 1998, at the age of 91. Add Penfield spoke so movingly at Stone's funeral on January 29.

His eulogy appeared in the February 4 edition of the Asheboro Courier-Tribune. I commend to my colleagues the words of one legend who spoke so glowingly about another legend.

[From the Asheboro Courier-Tribune, Feb. 4, 1998]

LEE JAY STONE, NOT ONLY A MAN OF  
FOOTBALL

(By Add Penfield)

Lee Jay Stone.

How to eulogize him . . . how best to celebrate the life of a man whose stature among his fellow human beings literally defies eulogy.

I have been asked to try. I respond in all humility.

I think maybe one of the Good Ole Boys with whom he often met in downtown Asheboro had it about right not long ago.

"Lee Stone," this Good Ole Boy said, "was something else, he was one of a kind."

Tired, well-worn, hackneyed language, this. Some might say so.

But those of us here . . . those of us whose lives Lee touched and made better—I think would agree that these everyday words hardly tarnish the image of Lee Jay Stone. You bet Lee was something else. Indeed, he was one of a kind.

Lee Stone was something else as a football coach . . . nary a losing season in a career that became legend. It may have taken one of a kind to persuade Charlie Justice to go out for the team at Lee Edwards High School in Asheville those many years ago and to inspire Choo Choo to become arguably the best and most famous of all North Carolina-bred football players.

He . . . Lee Stone . . . was something else, one of a kind, when he coached players like Strawberry Wheless, bless his soul, and Mark Leggett, and Dave Dalton, Bobby Burrows, Neal Hughes, Carrell Moody, Sparky Johnson and Jimmy Dollyhigh.

Because of Lee Stone, these men came to know what it meant to win a football championship at Asheboro High.

If you will, just ask the fine men who coached with and for him . . . people like Max Morgan and Russ Murphy and Tony Simeon . . . if Lee Stone was something else. They'll tell you to the man . . . he was one of a kind.

Lee Stone was a Hall of Famer as a football coach. And, I submit, if there were Halls of Fame for classroom teachers and school administrators, as there really ought to be, Lee Stone would have been a shoo-in for induction. As he did on the sidelines with his football teams, somehow he always got the best from those students who encountered his considerable skills in math and economics classes.

For Lee Stone, you see, was first, last and always an educator . . . in all departments. He was one who could share, with great good humor and accompanying discipline the infinite wisdom with which he was blessed. He shared with the entire community; witness, his long and distinguished service as a member of the Asheboro City Board of Education.

Oh, my yes! Lee Stone was something else in his chosen profession . . . educator and coach, coach and educator. He was one of a kind as a mold of men and women.

Just as an aside . . . Lee Stone was something else the night he was inducted into the N.C. Sports Hall of Fame. The induction took place fittingly . . . and at the instigation of David Stedman . . . in the Asheboro High School gymnasium.

It fell my lot to serve as Lee's presenter at the big banquet which taxed the capacity of the old gym. Hall of Fame officials organizing the event were quite specific and most emphatic in telling the Coach and me just how much time we were to have at the podium. . . . after all, others besides Lee were being inducted.

I think I was allotted four or five minutes for the presentations. As I remember it, Lee was allotted something like seven or eight minutes for his response.

Some of you were there. You know what happened. My broadcast training enabled me to meet the time requirement, right on the money. Then, Lee . . . one of a kind, God bless him . . . got up without a note and spoke for the better part of half an hour.

You be the judges. Only a man who was something else could have gotten away with it. For the record, I know of no complaint that was registered that memorable night.

Lee Stone was something else when it came of family friends . . . devoted husband to the good wife who went on ahead, loving father and father-in-law, doting grandfather. With Lee, the family came first.

Also, with Lee, friendships were treasures to be enhanced with fierce loyalty . . .

I am proud to have benefited from one of Lee's countless friendships, to have known how fierce his loyalty to a friend could be. Lee Stone and I traveled many miles together, climbed in and out of a lot of broadcast booths and press boxes in stadiums across this state and across this country. We

tooled down a lot-of-highways, often with Lee at the wheel, to some memorable assignments where usually he'd run into a friend or perhaps an unknown admirer. One or the other nearly always surfaced.

I suppose we had quite a bit in common, the Coach and I. In many respects, football was the centerpiece of our respective careers. We both believed mightily in a man named Wallace Wade. We could both sing the praises of Wade's renowned single wing and the wide-tackle Six. And it might be of some small significance to note that we were both transplanted Yankees who fell in love with and found a home in North Carolina. Down at Clemson, where Randleman-born Bob Bradley was ever the thoughtful host. . . . they even taught us to eat catfish.

I suppose all of you, each in his or her own private moment, will eulogize Lee Jay Stone far better than I . . . in ways more meaningful to you. Perhaps you will come up with something better to say that he was "something else" or "one of a kind." You must certainly know of Lee's love for God and Country.

Whatever the words you choose, whatever the memories you have of Lee Stone, you are likely to conclude that this man of monumental stature has had a profound influence on this community and every player, coach, student, educator, fellow citizen, friend . . . on anybody who enjoyed even the most casual relationship with him. Those who were closest to him . . . his beloved daughters, Frances and Susan, his son-in-law Joe, his wonderful grandchildren . . . only they can calculate fully the tremendous void left by his passing.

We all know Lee Stone ran the race well . . . maybe beginning in the Yale Bowl where he set prep school records in track. We know Lee fought the good fight right down to the end Tuesday morning.

As for me . . . of all the moments I was privileged to share with Lee, the one that lingers is that which occurred the night he presented me for membership in a local civic club.

Coach Stone put his arm around me and told the Kiwanians: "I love him like a brother!!" The feeling, Coach, was mutual; the compliment, immeasurable.

I know full well I was scarcely alone in this world as somebody Lee Stone loved. I had plenty of company. Brotherly love was something he bestowed generosity.

We all are richer for it.

Again, in the words of his admiring friend . . . one of the Good Ole Boys who went on ahead . . . Lee Jay Stone was "something else." The man was one of a kind.

And, oh, yes . . .

I shall not soon forget the last real conversation I had with Coach Stone in the final phases of his gallant fight.

It was at Clapp's . . . where the attendants came to love the Coach and give him such compassionate care.

I had started away from his chair, heading for the parking lot, when he sort of barked at me as only he could.

"Hey", he said, with his best practice field emphasis.

"When I get out of there in a few days, we'll have to make another of our trips."

This trip is one the Coach makes pretty much on his own.

But I am convinced that there awaits a glorious journey's end where, whenever legendary coaches gather in the larger life, Lee Jay Stone will be joining the likes of Wade and Neyland and Lee's fellow Hall of Famer, Bob Jamieson, in extolling the virtues of the single wing and the wide tackle Six. Their praises will be sung into eternity.

Safe journey, Lee. Catch up with you later.

## HONORING LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

### HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of Lithuania as they celebrate their independence day.

Lithuania has known a long history both brave and tragic. Despite a proud past, the people of Lithuania endured the forcible incorporation of the homeland into the former Soviet Union. After fifty one years of Soviet domination, Lithuania successfully overcame these oppressive efforts, and declared its independence on March 11, 1990.

Independence did not come easily. Ten months after this restoration of independence, the newly free Lithuania withstood a bloody and lethal assault from a stronger Soviet Union, an end to its supply of Soviet oil and gas, and 15 protesters killed in Vilnius by Soviet troops. These acts, however, were not enough to subdue the spirit of the Lithuanian people. The fire of freedom was fueled by the will of the people, and by the brave leaders of the region.

Since Lithuania regained its independence on March 11, 1990, the United States has played a critical role in helping it implement democratic and free market reforms and solidify its position as a European democracy. Together, the United States and Lithuania have worked to maintain strength and security throughout Europe.

Earlier this year, the United States and Lithuania signed the Baltic Charter. The Charter recalls this region's tragic history, and underscores that the U.S. has a "real, profound, and enduring" interest in the security and independence of all three Baltic countries. In hope it is sign of the deepening of mutual cooperation and shared interests between our two countries for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Lithuania committed themselves to take a stand against repression and communism. And today, they celebrate the fruits of that commitment on their independence day. I comment the people of Lithuania for their courage and perseverance in using peaceful means to regain their independence, and I hope you will join me in wishing them the best on this historic day.

## CELEBRATING LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, as a proud descendant of Lithuanian immigrants, it is my honor to pay tribute to this day in Lithuanian history. On this day eight years ago, a 51-year foreign occupation of the country as a result of the Nazi-Soviet Pact ended, allowing for the establishment of a new democratic state.

The people of Lithuania endured many years of imposed communist dictatorship and cultural genocide while trying to accomplish their strive to independence. During this time, they engaged in non-violent movement in sup-

port of their cause for change politically and socially. Working faithfully towards democracy through protest and perseverance, the people of Lithuania held their first democratic elections in Lithuania in more than half a century in 1990—restoring their independence on this day eight years ago.

Less than a year later, in January, 1991, foreign troops launched a bloody and virulent assault on the people and government of Lithuania. Again, the Lithuanians had to defend themselves against this oppressive regime and were able to once again bring about democratic reforms.

Nine months later, Lithuania became a member of the United Nations. Additionally, Lithuania participates in other international organizations such as the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, and the Council of Europe. It has applied to join NATO and is an associate member of the EU, waiting for negotiations for future membership.

As a man who nobly represents the United States and strongly supports Lithuania, I commend the people of Lithuania for their courage and tenacity in their use of peaceful means to regain their independence. I unite with the Lithuanian people in celebrating their independence day and look forward to the day when we can all celebrate their entrance into NATO.

## NATIONAL ARTS ADVOCACY DAY

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today is National Arts Advocacy Day, a time to focus on the fact that American creativity is driven by the arts. The most creative aspect of American art springs from our diversity. The history of the United States is depicted by the arts—paintings, photography, dancing, music, poetry, theater, literature, architecture.

National Arts Advocacy Day is a day in which we can realize the importance of the arts to our culture and economy. It is a day to remember that the arts are an integral part of our lives in both rural and urban communities. San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York City all revolve around the arts. Where would those cities be without such enthusiasm for the world of art and the revenue derived from public support of the arts?

We are working in the U.S. Capitol, a living museum of art and history that tells the story of democracy in the United States. Yet today, more than ever, what this building demonstrates is the creative talent of this country displayed in priceless paintings, photographs, works of sculpture in Statuary Hall, and in the very architecture of the building which is the symbol of the greatest democracy in the world.

We must invest more money in the arts to perpetuate creativity in future generations. The return on every federal dollar invested in the arts is phenomenal. Every \$1 of federal support for the arts—local ballets, music concerts, theater—generates an average of \$12 in matching funds. For the past two years the National Endowment for the Arts has requested \$136 million dollars from Congress to

fund their organization. For fiscal year 1998, Congress budgeted only \$98.5 million. The arts are not a frivolous, disposable commodity. They represent a significant part of our economy.

On National Arts Advocacy Day, let us remember the importance of intellectual development that the arts foster. Let us remember how it not only enhances the beauty of our country, but the economy as well. I support all Americans involved in arts from children doing finger paintings, to the design of new monuments in Washington, D.C. that will remind all Americans of their history. Let us celebrate together the importance of arts by supporting a strong Federal role in their promotion.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, we are now less than two weeks away from your promised date for a vote on campaign finance reform, yet we have no direction from you about what will or will not be considered.

There are plenty of bills that have been drafted that begin to address the overwhelming amount of money being spent on our elections. I have been active with my freshman colleagues in drafting the Bipartisan Campaign Integrity Act, I think it is a good bill, but there are others. The question Mr. Speaker is, what kind of vote will we be allowed to take. Will the vote be a clean vote which clearly shows who supports campaign finance reform and who doesn't or will the vote contain poison pills that will cloud the issue. It is incumbent upon us as Members of Congress to make clear our position on this important issue.

We are counting on you, Mr. Speaker, to allow a fair, clean vote on campaign finance reform so the people of this nation know where we stand, once and for all. The people of my district will not accept "no" for an answer.

#### SHIFT IN INS'S BORDER FOCUS

### HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, the U.S./Mexico border in San Diego County, California is the nation's busiest corridor for illegal immigration activity. However, yesterday, Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner declared that this entry is under control. While the INS decided to deploy 1,000 new border patrol agents, not one of them is headed to San Diego.

The 48th District of California lies just north of this high-traffic passage, and, Mr. Speaker, neither my constituents nor I would tell you that illegal immigration in this area is under control. Mrs. Meissner cites a 40% drop in border apprehensions in San Diego as proof that no additional agents are needed at this border. It is important to note that this figure does not take into account remote areas that are currently experiencing added strain as a

result of the greater presence of agents and the San Diego entry point.

While increasing the number of border patrol agents at the San Diego County borders might decrease movement at these sites, it only intensifies the influx at the neighboring border in Imperial County. The Border Patrol Chief at the Imperial County gateway noted that daily apprehensions have risen dramatically since 1996, from 150 to the current rate of over 900. Neglecting this corridor, while adding agents in Texas and New Mexico and maintaining the number of agents in San Diego, will only intensify this already acute problem.

Southern California suffers from the increasing flood of illegal aliens. Mrs. Meissner's denial to provide us with an adequate number of border patrol agents to handle this dilemma is detrimental to our state and to our nation.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue the battle against individuals who opt to enter the United States illegally, I commend our border patrol agents for their hard work and dedication. No matter how hard they work, though, we need more of these committed men and women at our high-traffic borders if we are to have any hope of curtailing illegal immigration. I support efforts to strengthen our border in states like Texas; however, we must not pursue that goal at California's expense. The INS should take a closer look at the continuing penetration of our borders in Southern California and reconsider its strategy.

#### RECOGNIZING HARRY STATHAM

### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great basketball coach and a great man.

Harry Statham, the athletic director of McKendree College in Lebanon, Illinois, is the NAIA's winningest active basketball coach. On Saturday, January 10, 1998, the McKendree Bearcats defeated Barat College. That game marked the 700th win of Coach Statham's long and successful career at the college.

Statham began his coaching career while he was still an undergraduate as the boys basketball coach at O'Fallon Junior High. After graduating from McKendree College in 1960, he enrolled at the University of Illinois at Champaign. While earning a master of science degree in physical education at U of I, Statham served as a graduate assistant for the men's basketball and track teams. He coached at two high schools in Southern Illinois before returning to McKendree College in 1968 as the athletic director and men's basketball head coach.

Coach Statham has lead the Bearcats to 27 post-season appearances, including five trips to the NAIA National Championships. Last season the Bearcats finished in the NAIA's "Elite Eight," the best tournament finish in the school's history. In 1988 the Bearcats established an NAIA record for most points scored by two teams when they prevailed over Huron College 124-107. This record of 231 total points scored still stands today. McKendree also holds the record for successful free throws in one game when they shot 39 of 39

in 1979. In the 1986-87 season, McKendree led the nation in scoring with a 105-point per game average.

Forty-one of the men who have played under Coach Statham have received post-season honors, including four All-American athletes. Two of Coach Statham's players have been drafted into the professional ranks. Dale Haverman was drafted by the Seattle Sonics in 1977 and Paul Funkhouser was drafted by the Chicago Bulls and the Carolina Cougars of the American Basketball Association in 1970.

Coach Statham, who lives in Belleville, Illinois with his wife, Rose, was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1987. He has been named the NAIA-IBCA Coach of the Year six times and the NAIA District 20 Coach of the Year six times. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that this month Coach Statham will be inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Coach Harry Statham for an impressive career.

#### TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR V. HODGES, AN AMERICAN HERO

### HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to inform this House of an Alabamian who personifies the best traditions of American military heroism, and whose proper recognition for meritorious service has finally been received after five decades of official oversight.

Late in World War II as this nation focused its military might on Japan, Private Arthur Hodges of Dothan, Alabama was a scout in a rifle squad with the U.S. Army's 306th Infantry Regiment in the Western Pacific. On April 20, 1945, the 306th was called to assault Legusugu on the Island of Ie Shima, just south of Okinawa.

The island was incredibly fortified and honeycombed with Japanese defenses. Enemy resistance to the landing American forces was severe. Hostile mortars, anti-tank guns, automatic weapons, and small arms covered the approaches with devastating fire delivered from concealed pill boxes and caves. Here's an excerpt from Private Hodges' war record:

Private Hodges led his platoon's assault. When he discovered a small group of the enemy in foxholes, he disregarded the heavy fire which swept the area and worked his way forward to a position within a few yards of the Japanese position. Accurately throwing grenades into the foxholes, he killed all four of the enemy. As he started forward again he was fired upon by two enemy riflemen. He took cover behind a rock and killed both of them with rifle fire. When he arrived at the peak of the mountain, he located an enemy machine gun which was blocking the advance of his unit. He promptly attacked this position, destroyed the gun, and killed its crew of two. As he returned to the top of the mountain, he killed two more of the enemy attempting to flee. Private Hodges' fearless aggressiveness and courage were an inspiration to his comrades and were in keeping with the highest military traditions.

Private Hodges went on to become a Staff Sergeant and a squad leader in charge of 12 men. Among his many decorations, Sergeant

Hodges received the Combat Infantry Badge, the World War II Victory Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, and the Army Good Conduct Medal. Surprisingly, Sgt. Hodges, who was also awarded the Bronze and Silver Stars, never actually received those medals due to a paperwork glitch. After my office's personal inquiry on his behalf last September, I'm happy to report that Mr. Arthur Hodges will be presented his Bronze and Silver Stars by me on March 13—some 52 years after he earned them. I congratulate Mr. Hodges and am very proud to have played a part in seeing him finally receive the decorations which he has so long merited and deserved.

# 10 FOR 60 RESOLUTION REAL TAX REFORM IN 1998

## HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the "10 for 60" Resolution. My resolution directs the Internal Revenue Service and Congress to begin this year the process of cutting in half the time that it takes the average taxpayer to file their tax returns. As the first step, the "10 for 60" Resolution calls for 10 changes in law or regulation this year to cut 60 minutes from tax preparation time. The "10 for 60" Resolution intends that these proposals should be revenue neutral and should focus on changes that benefit as large a group of taxpayers as possible.

Today, it takes too long for the average taxpayer to file their taxes. In fact, the American taxpayer is taxed twice. Not only do we pay our taxes, but our time is taxed as well. At this time of year, instead of spending time with our families, working around the home, or just taking a break, we spend hour after hour punching numbers into a calculator, trying to decipher IRS directions and tables, and searching through our financial records to find that last receipt for a charitable contribution that we made.

According to the IRS, this annual spring exercise will take the average taxpayer 15 hours and 47 minutes to prepare and file a typical tax return (Form 1040 and Schedules A and B). Add in other forms, such as Schedule C, the business profit and loss schedule, and the total time for tax compliance can be in excess of 30 hours.

There are plenty of examples of ways that we can simplify tax code now. The mileage deduction was intended to help not only those with business expenses, but individuals with medical, charitable and moving travel costs. However, the tax code contains three separate reimbursement rates for travel. Why should a taxpayer be required to keep three separate records for using the same car?

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), designed to help low income families and reward work, is good policy. In fact, an analysis by the non-partisan Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, reveals that the EITC "lifts more children out of poverty than any other government program." Yet, this single credit has been changed twelve times in the past 20 years. The credit contains nine eligibility standards and could require one checklist, two worksheets, one schedule and a normal 1040 to complete.

Congress has many ideas on tax reform or changes. At last count, over 600 separate bills to amend the Internal Revenue Code have been introduced in this Congress. These proposals range from broad reform to very narrow modifications. The major proposals, a flat tax or a national sales tax, do have hidden repercussions. While some taxpayers may like the idea of simplifying the tax code, they do not support the elimination of crucial deductions, like the home mortgage interest deduction or the charitable contribution nor do they support the taxation of worker fringe benefits like health insurance coverage or taxing services like a free checking account. Furthermore, true simplification should make the tax law understandable and workable, deflecting wholesale, imprudent changes while retaining sound, proven tax policies.

Congress should focus on what the taxpayers really need—true tax simplification. Concrete proposals already exist to simplify the existing tax code with minimal revenue changes. The House included in the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act the requirement that any new tax legislation include a complexity analysis before enactment. Why not apply such an analysis to existing provisions of law?

Tax simplification this year is an achievable goal but not if Congress gets bogged down in debating unrealistic proposals to abolish the tax code or initiate other radical changes. These are Trojan horses being advanced as tax simplification. It is time to address real tax simplification as more than a rhetorical tool and to make it a policy priority. My "10 for 60" resolution places the American taxpayer, not politics, first by focusing on real, attainable tax simplification for this year. My resolution gives everyone something they need more of—time. I hope that my Colleagues will join with me in making tax simplification a reality in 1998.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. JASON BINKLEY FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

## HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the name of Jason Binkley, of Ephrata, PA, in my congressional district. Jason is a member of Boy Scout Troop 38 in Ephrata. On Sunday, March 15, 1998, he will be receiving one of scouting's highest honors, the Eagle Scout Award. For this wonderful achievement we in the United States House of Representatives salute this fine young man.

To receive his Eagle Scout Award, Jason was required to complete a project that was of service to his community. Jason's project was renovating the amphitheater at the Ephrata Cloister. He was responsible for replacing the 400 bench seats, which had deteriorated from the years of being exposed to the elements, with new preserved wood tops. Jason accomplished this by raising funds locally and recruiting 20 other scouts who helped Jason with all of the cutting, bolting, and cleaning necessary to complete the project. Jason and his recruits donated over 120 hours of their time to complete the renovation of the Ephrata Cloister.

Again, I would like to congratulate Jason for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. I know he worked hard and with great self-determination to earn this distinguished honor. I am honored to have such a fine young man in my district who is willing to donate himself to the community. I wish Jason the best of luck in all of his future endeavors and trust that he will continue to make his family, friends, and this Member of Congress proud of him.

# HONORING THE HOPE EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP FUND ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 7TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SYMPOSIUM

## HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize HOPE Education and Leadership Fund on the occasion of its 7th Annual Symposium to be held on Friday, March 13, 1998 in Los Angeles, California.

For the past seven years, the HOPE Education Leadership Fund has provided a collective voice for Latinas by ensuring quality representation in the political process and in the public and private sectors. HOPE has encouraged political education of its members by conducting effective workshops, unique seminars and challenging training forums, informing the community on critical issues affecting Latinas.

At its annual symposium, HOPE and its members have the opportunity to analyze and talk about issues relevant to Latinas. HOPE's annual symposium is held every March, in honor of Women's History Month. The Symposium explores those issues facing Latinas. Among the issues HOPE explores range from health care and business development to domestic violence.

The annual symposium also recognizes Latina role models from throughout our history, highlighting those women who have excelled in their respective fields and serve as role models for younger Latinas. It is the tradition of the HOPE Education and Leadership Fund to present the Gift of HOPE Award to a Latina in recognition of her outstanding achievements and accomplishments in her field. This year's Gift of HOPE Award will be presented to Corina Alarcon, Executive Director of WAVE. By witnessing this form of recognition, younger generations become proud of their heritage and are encouraged to continue pursuing a professional career.

In 1994, the HOPE Education and Leadership Fund introduced the Ray HOPE Award. This award is given to individuals within our community who have demonstrated outstanding achievements as members of HOPE, either by giving back to the Latino community or in their professional achievements. This year, the Ray of HOPE Award will be presented to Maria Elena Salinas, Noticiero Univision anchor.

In 1993, the HOPE Education and Leadership Fund began the publication of its newsletter entitled *HOPE Agenda*. The printing of the publication coincides with the Annual Symposium and is used to relate news and information about HOPE activities to members and



other interested persons. In addition to the newsletter, HOPE also announced the publication of the *Women of HOPE*, an education book featuring the biographies of historical Latina icons. The premiere limited edition features Queen Isabella of Spain, Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, La Pola, Josefina Ortiz and Gabriela Mistral.

On Friday, March 13, 1998, members and leaders of our community will gather at HOPE's 7th Annual Women's History Month Symposium. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring HOPE Education and Leadership Fund for its contribution to the social, political and economic status of Latinas.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE-TIME COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF CLARENCE IWAO NISHIZU

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Clarence Iwao Nishizu for his dedicated service to the Japanese American community and Orange County. Clarence grew up in Orange County where his family owned a farm and he is a graduate of Anaheim High School and Fullerton Jr. College. During World War II, all Americans of Japanese ancestry were interned as a result of Executive Order 9066. Clarence and his family were uprooted and interned at Heart Mountain, Wyoming. After the war, he and his family returned to Orange County and continued to farm with his two brothers. Due to his experience in the internment camps, Clarence continued to be an active citizen in Orange County, particularly within the Japanese American community in the areas of civil and human rights.

Clarence Nishizu was Co-founder of the Orange County Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens' League (JACL), the oldest Asian American civil rights organization. He later founded four other chapters of JACL throughout Southern California, including the SELANOCO chapter where he was past president.

In 1966, Clarence was the first Japanese American selected as the Foreman of the Orange County Grand Jury. In 1975, he received a special "Resolution of Appreciation Award" for his meritorious service from the Orange County Criminal Justice Council. Clarence was also active in the Redress campaign by testifying before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. His efforts, along with many other Japanese Americans eventually led to the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 in Congress. In 1991, the major highlights of his life were published in the Honorable Stephen K. Tamura Orange County Japanese American Oral History Project, a publication that chronicles the history of Japanese Americans in Orange County.

Now, at the age of 86, Clarence Nishizu continues to actively participate on the board of the SELANOCO Chapter of JACL. He actively fundraises to promote SELANOCO's civic responsibility program, the Presidential

Classroom scholarships, which provide opportunities for high school students to go to Washington, D.C. for leadership training.

IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 217

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last week I joined five of my colleagues in opposing HR 217, consolidation of McKinney Homeless Programs. While this legislation passed overwhelmingly, it has some clear ramifications for my district.

I support the block grant concept as well as the effort to provide local flexibility for homeless programs. However, this legislation institutes onerous matching requirements and caps on supportive services which would seriously jeopardize Portland, Oregon's existing network of services. HR 217 specifically provides funds for the construction, rehabilitation, and acquisition of permanent housing. While I realize these funds are needed in other communities, this allocation is troublesome for those communities, like Portland, where many of the necessary capital investments have already been made. In these communities, federal homeless funds are needed almost entirely for the maintenance of existing programs and facilities, not necessarily new construction. I am proud of the investment my community has made in permanent housing and would like to see flexibility in the block granting process which will allow us to maintain existing programs.

LARRY SEXTON RECOGNIZED AS A TOP NEW-CAR DEALER

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate Larry Sexton, a dedicated Missouri businessman, who has been named a finalist of the 1998 Time Magazine Quality Dealer Award (TMQDA).

Sexton, a native of Salem, Missouri, was selected as one of the top ten new-car dealers in the nation, from a field of more than 20,500 participants. Sponsored in association with Goodyear, and in cooperation with the National Association of Automobile Dealers, the TMQDA program recognizes outstanding new-car dealers for exceptional performance in their dealerships and distinguished community service. Finalist are selected by a panel of faculty members from the University of Michigan Graduate School of Business Administration.

Larry Sexton, a graduate of the University of Missouri, owns and operates Sellers-Sexton, Incorporated, one of South-Central Missouri's largest new-car dealers. In addition, Sexton is chairman of the Fort Leonard Wood Regional Commerce and Growth Association and vice president of the Fifth Regional Association of the United States Army. He also serves on the executive board of the Committee of Fifty and the Missouri Highway Corridor Coalition.

Mr. Speaker, Larry Sexton is an outstanding businessman and a good friend. His service to

his business and his community is to be commended. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to Larry for being named one of the top-ten new-car dealers in the United States.

TRIBUTE TO THE HAMMOND HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM

**HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I rise today to congratulate the Hammond High School wrestling team on their outstanding accomplishments during the 1997-1998 season. Having previously captured County, Regional and State Dual Meet championships, as well as team titles in the Howard County and South Region Tournaments, on March 6-7 the Golden Bears completed a sweep of all six championships by winning the Class 1A/2A Maryland Public High Schools State Wrestling Tournament team title for the first time.

Led by a core of experienced junior and senior wrestlers, the Hammond High School team sought out the highest level of competition, wrestling against teams from throughout Maryland, as well as Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and as far away as California. Committed to both individual and team excellence, the Golden Bears achieved outstanding results in all weight classes. The team was undefeated in 18 dual meets and all 13 wrestlers finished in the top four places at the Howard County Tournament. Without a single returning County champion, this year's Hammond High team produced six County and two Regional champions. Two Hammond wrestlers, Scott Osborn and Matt Nelson, placed 2nd in the State, and one, Vaymond Dennis, finished the season as the 112 pound Maryland State Champion.

As noteworthy as the achievements of the team on the wrestling mat, Coach Bill Smith and his staff should be commended for their uncompromising attention to the personal development of these young men. From the first day of practice in November, team members were required to meet high standards—of academic performance and of personal behavior. I applaud Coach Smith, as an educator, for teaching lessons that will have value long into the future.

I offer my congratulations to Dr. Sylvia Patillo, Principal of Hammond High School, as well as to the parents and fans of the Golden Bear wrestling team. I am sure that they are proud, as I am, of the accomplishments of the student-athletes of the 1997-1998 team. I am pleased to note that the school's tradition of wrestling excellence now includes a Maryland State Tournament Championship title.

DISTRUST IN GOVERNMENT

**HON. LEE H. HAMILTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday,

March 11, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### DISTRUST IN GOVERNMENT

One of the major changes in American politics over the years has been the erosion of public trust in government. In the mid-1960s, three-quarters of Americans said they trusted the federal government to do the right thing most of the time. In recent years, that number has generally been closer to one-fourth to one-third. Public trust in state and local governments is not much higher, and we have seen similar declines in confidence in other countries around the world.

This devaluation of government and politics is clearly worrisome, and it makes it all the more difficult for the federal government to carry out its important responsibilities as we enter the 21st century. Thus increased attention has been given lately to the question of why Americans have declining confidence in the federal government. The reasons for the decline are several.

**Declining trust generally:** Part of the decline reflects a broader drop in confidence in authority and institutions generally, as many see declining respect for authority a feature of current culture. Trust in all institutions took a big hit from Vietnam and Watergate, and the sharpest drops in public confidence in government occurred during that time.

**Changing economy:** Americans have less confidence in government as the U.S. economy has changed—as workers feel the threat of globalization and technology and as little progress is made on income inequality and wage growth for middle-class workers. People feel high anxiety and a loss of control over their own lives. To them government seems less relevant and not particularly helpful with their difficult work transitions and their burdensome education, health care, and retirement costs.

**Too much corruption:** People are concerned about corruption and low ethical standards among government officials. They believe that many are dishonest and controlled by special interests. In a recent poll, only 18% of Americans thought their own representative has not traded votes for campaign contributions. People will often say it takes new Members of Congress only a few months to become corrupted by the system.

**Poor leadership:** A common theme is that public officials are just looking out for themselves, pursuing their own agendas and advancing their own personal power rather than providing leadership and representing constituents. Americans think that one of the best ways to improve public confidence in government is to find more responsive political leaders.

**Too political:** There is widespread belief that the political system has become too political. By a sizeable margin people feel that politics prevents government from serving the people well.

**Messy process:** The public doesn't approve of the slow, often contentious nature of the legislative process. Studies have shown that public confidence in legislatures generally goes down after the proceedings are opened up through television and other means, even for legislatures that had greatly improved their operations and performance compared to when they operated behind closed doors. Institutions that are the most public are often the least liked.

**Government waste:** Another major complaint, and one that I hear all the time, is that the federal government has become too big, too wasteful, too inefficient. In recent polls, 80% of Americans stated they believe that government is inefficient and wastes tax dollars. Often in public meetings constituents will tell me that fifty cents of every dollar going to Washington is wasted.

**Too intrusive:** Many people believe that government tries to do too much and interferes with their lives. They often tell me to "Get government off my back." Almost half of Americans perceive government as an obstacle rather than a helping hand to achieving the American dream.

**Weak performance:** Large numbers of Americans don't think government has much of an impact on their daily lives. Recently when people were asked to name two or three of the most important successes of the federal government over the past thirty years, 42% of Americans couldn't volunteer even one.

**Media:** The more cynical, more adversarial approach of the media today is often cited as one of the biggest factors in the dramatic drop in Americans' trust in government. Since the 1960s, newspaper and television coverage has become much more negative and more focused on conflict than substance. That clearly has taken a toll.

Some of these factors can't be easily changed, such as the negative tone of the media or the broad decline in confidence in all institutions. Yet there is still reason for hope. The good news is that many of the factors that can be controlled by political leaders can go a long way toward helping to restore confidence in government. Most notably, as Congress in recent years has taken the tough steps to reduce the deficit in order to boost the U.S. economy and has balanced the federal budget—a problem that has plagued policymakers for decades—public confidence in the institution has risen significantly.

There are many things that politicians can do to bolster trust in government. Among them: First, we need to streamline the operations of government—making it more responsive, accessible, and workable. Second, we need to tackle the big issues and deal with things that really concern people, such as improving education and shoring up the long-term outlook for Social Security and Medicare. Third, we need to correct public misperceptions about government, explaining better how it works and what it does. For example, Americans frequently complain about the large amount of money going for foreign aid, which they think is around 20% of the total federal budget and say should be closer to 10%, but is actually only 1% of the federal budget. Fourth, we need to improve the public's understanding of the impact of government on their lives every day. Support for the federal government improves considerably when people are informed about the government's role in improving health care for seniors, ensuring food safety, discovering medical cures, and creating the Internet.

Despite their often low confidence in government, large numbers of Americans still say they want to see an effective government that helps them and their family, and they believe this is an achievable goal. And they want more information about how Congress works and how it connects to their lives. So the opportunity for improving the way Americans look at their government is clearly there.

#### GUS AND FRANCES STAVROS—GIVING BACK TO THEIR COMMUNITY

**HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, if any one knows that hard work leads to success it

is Gus Stavros, my dear friend and constituent from St. Petersburg, Florida.

The son of an immigrant from Crete, his success is grounded in a strong set of values which have guided him throughout his life, as a parent, a businessman, and generous philanthropist.

Among the shared beliefs of Gus and Frances Stavros is a commitment to improving educational opportunities for the children of Pinellas County, Florida. With a \$1 million gift in 1987, the couple spearheaded a county-wide effort to establish Enterprise Village, a state-of-the-art learning facility to teach fifth-graders about business and economics. Since its opening, more than 100,000 students have participated in programs at Enterprise Village. All fifth-graders in Pinellas County complete a business course that prepares them for spending a day at Enterprise Village, which is the key to their learning experience. There they have the opportunity to run one of a number of businesses such as a bank, drugstore, newspaper, fast-food establishment, hospital, or radio station. They are paid with special currency, with which they can open a checking account for the day, have lunch, and spend their money at businesses in the Village.

The experience has been such an unqualified success for students, parents, and teachers that the Stavros family recently announced a new campaign, spearheaded with another \$1 million gift, to establish Enterprise Village II to allow eighth-graders to have a hands-on experience in business and economics.

This is just one of many charitable endeavors to which Gus and Frances Stavros have given so much. They have given to local theaters, orchestras, museums, and colleges.

Mr. Speaker, Gus Stavros has lived the American Dream. He is the son of an immigrant, a decorated veteran of World War II, he is a proud father and husband, he is a successful businessman, and he and his wife have given back many times over to our community. And in just a few days, on March 20th, he and Frances will celebrate their golden 50th wedding anniversary.

Following my remarks, I will include for the benefit of my colleagues a story by Lennie Bennett from Sunday's St. Petersburg Times which tells the remarkable story of this very special, and most generous, couple—Gus and Frances Stavros.

Their story is one that I hope inspires others throughout our nation to lead by example and give back to their communities to make them a better place to live.

[From the St. Petersburg Times, Mar. 8, 1998]

#### COUPLE RELISH GIVING AWAY MILLIONS

(By Lennie Bennett)

ST. PETERSBURG.—Gus and Frances Stavros went out to lunch for a celebration the day they pledged \$1-million in matching funds to Enterprise Village II last month.

On the way home from Largo to their condominium in downtown St. Petersburg, they passed by a number of fine restaurants and private clubs.

Finally they found what they were looking for—hamburgers and french fries at Wendy's.

That lack of pretension is typical, friends and colleagues say of the couple, both 73, who made millions when he sold his company, Better Business Forms Inc., in 1984 and subsequently have given most of those millions away.

"I don't believe in saving it, and waiting to give it away after my demise," Stavros said



recently at their downtown St. Petersburg business office.

The couple declined to estimate just how much they have given to the community, saying only that it was "a considerable sum," but there are few cultural institutions in Pinellas County that haven't benefited from their generosity.

He is considered a driving force behind the development of Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater, where he lived for many years, spending a decade raising funds to build the performing arts center.

They are major donors of the Florida Orchestra, American Stage Theatre Company and the Museum of Fine Arts, where halls, courtyards and galleries bear the Stavros name.

But talk to Gus Stavros for just a few minutes, and it's clear that even though his motto for giving is "church, culture and education," his abiding passion is education.

"Of all the ills of the world, the only solution is education," Stavros said.

He would know.

Gus Stavros' father, Anthony, was born on the island of Crete in 1898. When Anthony Stavros was 9, his family "sold" him to a wealthy Athenian businessman who employed him as a gardener, sending his wages back to Crete. He ran away after a beating and worked odd jobs, saving enough to immigrate to the United States in 1912.

"My father came here because he was told—and really believed—that the streets were lined with gold. When he got here, he realized that they were lined with opportunity."

The young man, who spoke no English, worked as a dishwasher in Greek restaurants, and eventually was able to buy diners in Elizabeth, N.J., and prospered as a small businessman. He married another Greek emigre, Elizabeth Kourasmenos, who helped in the business. When Gus Anthony Stavros, their only child, was old enough, he worked, too.

But that was after he went to a public school from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., then a Greek school from 4 to 7.

"My father taught himself to read and write in both languages. My mother never learned to read or write. But she knew how to count. She worked the cash register," Stavros recalled.

"My father had great marketing know-how. He put a big sign on the highway that read 'Free Soup with Meals. All the coffee you can drink, five cents.' This was during the Depression. Truck drivers lined up for miles to get in."

A good student, Stavros received a scholarship to Columbia University in New York City, and he attended for a year before enlisting in the Army in 1942.

For three years, he served under Gen. George Patton. During the final march on Berlin, he was wounded in the head by artillery fire. He returned home with a Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and an injury that left him partly paralyzed in his left arm and hand.

The first call he made from the stateside hospital was to Frances Shaw, a young woman he had met only twice.

"In high school, a bunch of us formed the Condor Athletic Club. We'd play basketball, go bowling together. One night at the bowling alley, a friend came in with Frances. I asked for an introduction. Later, I said to my best friend, 'That's the girl I'm going to marry.'"

Gus Stavros and Frances Shaw didn't see each other again for two years. When he looked her up during one of his Army leaves, she didn't remember him.

They began corresponding although, as Mrs. Stavros said, "I wrote to a lot of boys

overseas. We all did, so they wouldn't be so lonely."

In 1945, when Stavros was released from the hospital, he returned to Columbia University and graduated with a liberal arts degree in 1948.

Gus and Frances were married that same year.

Like her husband, Frances Stavros was a child of the Depression.

"My father worked for the railroad," she said, "and we never had a lot. But my family, like Gus', valued education."

"That is why we feel so strongly about the Pinellas County Education Foundation and Enterprise Village," Gus Stavros said.

#### MEANING BUSINESS

Stavros is chairman emeritus of the Pinellas County Education Foundation, which was formed 11 years ago by then-associate superintendent Dr. Howard Hinesley and members of the business community to develop enhancement programs that the school system could not pay for.

One of those programs is Enterprise Village. It is a testament to Stavros' unequivocal belief in the free enterprise system.

"I'm not an economist. I'm a businessman. Enterprise Village teaches students about our economic system, which is the greatest in the world."

He planned Enterprise Village with a businessman's savvy.

"In 1977, I was involved in an event called Expo '77 for 11th- and 12th-graders, with local business leaders at booths in the Bayfront Center to help students with career planning. It didn't work. We held it on a Friday, and the kids came in the front door and went right out the back, probably to the beach."

"Then we went into the schools with films to talk about the free enterprise system. It bored the kids, and they didn't pay any attention."

"So I sat down and thought, 'In the world of business, you do what the customer wants. Who's the customer here? The student.' That's how we started with Enterprise Village."

The facility was modeled after Hallmark Cards Learning City in Kansas City, Mo., which Hinesley visited in 1987. He called Stavros, excited.

"I asked him to spearhead it, and he said yes," recalled Hinesley, now superintendent of Pinellas County schools.

"He opened doors that we couldn't. He went with us on every call. Some people had said no to us, and he got them to change their minds. I, at first, was just thinking small, something for \$5,000. Then it kept growing because Gus wanted to do it the right way. I never thought we could raise that kind of money."

By the time Stavros finished the campaign, \$1-million had been raised to build the Largo facility.

Stavros secured commitments from local corporations to replicate smaller versions of their businesses in a mall-like building with a central meeting space, complete with gazebo, called Town Square.

Since opening in 1989, more than 100,000 students have participated.

All fifth-graders in Pinellas County complete a business course provided by Enterprise Village before their visit. Then they spend a day working at one of the businesses, supervised by staff and volunteers. A bank, drugstore, newspaper, fast-food restaurant and hospital "employ" them, pay them in pretend money and give them time to open checking accounts, go shopping, have lunch. They meet at the end of the day for a speech by an elected "mayor," one of the students.

Students, teachers and parents laud the experience.

"We receive comments from them, and from visitors from all over the world who want to copy the program, about the importance of it, and of the importance of continuing this kind of education," said Frances Neu, executive director of the foundation.

In fact, it has been so successful, it has spawned Enterprise Village II for eighth-graders.

"It's important that we go beyond an introduction to entrepreneurship. At Enterprise Village II, we're going to teach students fiscal responsibility, ethics and career planning. Ethics, most importantly. We've got to teach young people that to be truly successful, you must live an ethical life," Stavros said.

#### LIFE LESSONS

Even though he is a decorated war veteran and graduate of a prestigious university, Stavros could not get a job because of his partial paralysis. He was advised to stay home and collect his disability pension. He finally found a job with Simmons Mattress Co. in New Jersey and worked his way up through the management ranks, eventually transferring to Ohio.

But in his entrepreneurial heart, what he really wanted was his own business. With two partners he started a small company that printed business forms.

Better Business Forms began with three employees working out of a Quonset hut.

Stavros, who had moved his family to Pinellas County continued to work his day job, spending weekends and nights at Better Business Forms. When the company was sold in 1989, it employed 550 people and posted sales close to \$90-million.

He managed the company's explosive growth with innovative business practices and a belief that no matter how big the business got, the individual employee always counted.

"It was the most satisfying thing I've done in my life, building a company with 550 employees, 550 families," he said.

He speaks of his own family with pride.

"I'm very proud that my son Paul has gotten involved with the Palladium project."

Palladium is a private effort to convert the First Church of Christ, Scientist, in downtown St. Petersburg into a mid-size performing arts hall.

"Paul was also the one who got us involved with American Stage. Our other son, Mark, is a sportsman who races greyhounds. Our daughter, Ellen, got us involved with the Museum of Fine Arts when she was a docent. Now she is executive director of Florida House in Washington, D.C. It's like state embassy, the only one."

The Stavroses have attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Clearwater for 40 years, teaching Sunday School, and coaching basketball and softball.

#### MOVING ON

A self-described workaholic and a hands-on volunteer who rarely relaxed during his adult life, Stavros seems happy to slow down a little now, though he said he believes that "the condition of standing still is the beginning of the end."

Gus and Frances Stavros, who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary March 20, spend summers in North Carolina, and they have traveled a bit with family.

He claims to serve on fewer boards. Even so, his plate remains full of meaty fund-raising commitments such as the \$500,000 still needed to pay for Enterprise Village II (he's already raised \$3-million). He is chairman of the Florida State University Foundation, and co-chairman of the University of South Florida's capital campaign, with a goal of raising \$220-million. Not surprisingly, he's met half of that goal.

He loves speaking to students. "I tell them the story of the Pilgrims and the Mayflower Compact, a great document, which had one defect, that everyone should work for the good of all and pool their work product. They were starving to death. Gov. (William) Bradford then gave each man his own parcel of land for a year. At the end of that year, we had two great institutions, Thanksgiving and free enterprise."

He leans forward in a chair in his modest office as he gives this history lesson.

Surrounding him are hundreds of plaques, resolutions, statuettes and photographs, tokens of his life in service to the community.

There on the walls are the Florida Chamber Economic Education Leadership Award, Commissioner's Award for Excellence, Liberty Bell Award, National Conference of Christians and Jews Silver Medallion Award, United Way Award for Leadership, Friends of the Arts Award, and on and on.

There he is as Mr. Sun, the most prestigious civic award in St. Petersburg, and as Mr. Clearwater; he is the only person ever awarded both honors. There he is at the dedication of the Gus A. Stavros Center for the Advancement of Free Enterprise and Economic Education at Florida State University in 1988, and a year later at USF to dedicate a second center.

But he doesn't want to talk about any of those on this day. He wants to return to the story of his lunch at Wendy's.

"We had the program for the Enterprise Village II ground-breaking in our hands as we pick up our food," he said. "And our server saw it and said, 'Do you know about Enterprise Village? I want you to know I took off work so I could volunteer there for both of my children. It's one of the most wonderful things that ever happened to my kids.'"

Gus and Frances Stavros turned to each other and smiled.

They can't remember having a better meal.

#### NOT ENOUGH LIFEBOATS

### HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 11, 1998*

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD this editorial by William Raspberry from the Washington Post of March 9, 1998. Parents should have the ability to rescue their children from the schools in which they are trapped

when those schools fail to meet minimum standards of performance and safety. If you cannot save every child from these schools, should you refuse to save a few? I don't think so, and neither does Mr. Raspberry.

[From the Washington Post, March 9, 1998]

#### NOT ENOUGH LIFEBOATS

(By William Raspberry)

Before you dismiss his voucher proposal for D.C. schools as too conservative, too insensitive to the poor or too destructive of public education, House Majority Leader Dick Armey wants to remind you of this fact:

When Ted Forstmann and John Walton put up \$8 million of their own money to provide 1,000 scholarships for low-income parents who wanted their children out of D.C. public schools, there were 7,573 applications—about a tenth of the total public school enrollment. These parents, Armey told me in a recent interview, constitute 7,573 rebuttals to whatever anti-voucher case you care to make. They believe that choice—represented in this case by privately funded vouchers—offers their children a better chance, and they want it.

The Texas Republican has been joined by Rep. William Lipinski (D-Ill.), Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.) and Sen. Dan Coats (R-Ind.) in introducing a bill to fund tuition scholarships for some 2,000 additional poor children here.

The D.C. Student Opportunity Scholarship Act would provide means-tested tuition supplements that could be used in public or private schools, either in the District or in neighboring counties in Maryland and Virginia. Students whose family incomes fall below the official poverty line would be eligible for the maximum yearly grant of \$3,200. Those whose family incomes are above, but less than 185 percent of, the poverty line would get three-quarter scholarships of \$2,400.

Question: Does the scheme represent a noble rescue effort, or does it amount to the abandonment of a sinking school system?

As far as Armey is concerned, it's like asking whether no one aboard the Titanic should have been permitted to use lifeboats because there weren't enough lifeboats for everybody.

Armey, who has been involved in a few local schools through a program he started called Tools for Tomorrow, says he has "seen the lights go on in their eyes" when children get additional tutorial help or scholarships to better schools. "They start telling you about how their favorite classes are math and science. And I wonder why we can't provide this sort of opportunity—in private or

parochial schools or in public schools—for more children whose parents can't afford it."

The most frequently offered answer is that such schemes—almost always too limited to serve all the children who need help—amount to a turning away from public education. The parents most likely to seize the opportunities offered are those who have the means to supplement the vouchers and those who already take an active interest in their children's education. The result is a sort of skimming—of children and their parents—that can leave the public schools significantly worse off.

It's undeniable. But look at it from the viewpoint of parents who grab at the chance to get their children into better schools: Should they be required to keep their children in bad schools to keep those schools from growing worse? Should they be made to wait until we get around to improving *all* the public schools?

"The District of Columbia is interesting, in the sense that it has some really outstanding public schools, and one of the highest per-pupil outlays in the country," Armey said. "But, in candor, it also has some truly awful schools. How can this be? In our visits [with Tools for Tomorrow] the parents keep coming back to one word: discipline. They are talking about discipline in the sense of expecting a certain standard of behavior and discipline in the sense of the rigor with which [private and parochial schools] teach the curriculum.

"I don't know if you can make all the schools exercise that kind of discipline. But if it's possible, maybe the best way to make it happen is to put them on notice that they may be about to lose their children."

That notion that competition will force the worst schools to improve drives much of the advocacy for vouchers. Does it make sense? I don't know. When New York philanthropist Virginia Gilder offered \$2,000 scholarships to every child in Albany's worst-performing school, a sixth of the parents grabbed the offer and took their kids elsewhere. The school board fired the principal, brought in new teachers and undertook a range of improvements. But to expect most poor-performing schools to improve with the introduction of vouchers is to believe their poor performance is willful. I'm not sure even the voucher advocates believe that. But surely opponents cannot believe the logic of their counter-argument: that if you can't save everybody—whether from a burning apartment house, a sinking ship or a dreadful school system—it's better not to save anybody.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and in any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 1998, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## MARCH 16

1:00 p.m.

## Special on Aging

To hold hearings to examine the lending practices of the subprime lending market, focusing on how senior citizens are targeted by unscrupulous lenders.

SD-628

## MARCH 17

9:00 a.m.

## Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for child nutrition programs, focusing on the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program.

SR-332

9:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

Business meeting, to mark up proposed legislation making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.

SD-106

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To resume hearings to examine the scope and depth of the proposed settlement between State Attorneys General and tobacco companies to mandate a total reformation and restructuring of how tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed in America.

SR-253

10:00 a.m.

## Judiciary

## Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine privacy in the digital age, focusing on encryption and mandatory access issues.

SD-226

## Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings to examine retirement security issues.

SD-430

## Veterans Affairs

To hold hearings on Persian Gulf War illnesses, focusing on the lessons learned from Desert Storm regarding chemical and biological weapons preparedness.

SH-216

10:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Food Safety and Inspection Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Agriculture Marketing Service, and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, all of the Department of Agriculture.

SD-138

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on international narcotics control plans and policy.

SD-124

11:00 a.m.

## Budget

Business meeting, to mark up a proposed concurrent resolution setting forth the fiscal year 1999 budget for the Federal Government.

SD-608

2:30 p.m.

## Armed Services

## SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on ship acquisition.

SR-222

## Judiciary

## Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information Subcommittee

To hold hearings to review policy directives for protecting America's critical infrastructures.

SD-226

## MARCH 18

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

## Acquisition and Technology Subcommittee

To hold hearings to review the status of acquisition reform in the Department of Defense.

SR-222

## Labor and Human Resources

Business meeting, to resume markup of S. 1648, to provide for reductions in youth smoking, for advancements in tobacco-related research, and the development of safer tobacco products.

SD-106

## Rules and Administration

To hold hearings on the proposed budget request for fiscal year 1999 for the Smithsonian Institution, the Kennedy Center, and the Wilson Center.

SR-301

## Small Business

To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1999 for the Small Business Administration.

SR-428A

## Veterans Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans.

345 Cannon Building

## Indian Affairs

Business meeting, to mark up proposed legislation with regard to Indians in the proposed tobacco settlement, and S. 1279, proposed Indian Employment Training and Related Services Demonstration Act; to be followed by an oversight hearing on the implementation of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act

(P.L. 101-644), focusing on the Arts and Board activities, resource needs, and mission.

SR-485

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense, focusing on National Guard programs.

SD-192

## Appropriations

## District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the implementation of provisions of the Management Reform Act of 1997 relating to the revitalization of the District of Columbia (P.L. 105-34).

SD-124

2:00 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Labor.

SD-138

## Armed Services

## Personnel Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on active and reserve military and civilian personnel programs and the Service safety programs.

SR-222

## Governmental Affairs

## International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine nuclear nonproliferation and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (Treaty Doc. 105-28).

SD-342

## MARCH 19

9:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

## VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, and cemetery expenses for the Army.

SD-138

## Appropriations

## Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Architect of the Capitol, the General Accounting Office, and the Government Printing Office.

S-128, Capitol

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on S. 1488, to ratify an agreement between the Aleut Corporation and the United States to exchange land rights received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for certain land interests on Adak Island, and S. 1670, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for selection of lands by certain veterans of the Vietnam era.

SD-366

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for the Federal Communications Commission, and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

S-146, Capitol

- Appropriations  
Transportation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Transportation. SD-124
- Labor and Human Resources  
To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-191). SD-430
- 2:00 p.m.  
Judiciary  
Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine international aviation agreements and antitrust immunity implications. SD-226
- 2:30 p.m.  
Armed Services  
Strategic Forces Subcommittee  
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on the Department of Energy's science-based stockpile stewardship and management program. SR-232A
- MARCH 24
- 9:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on issues with regard to Alzheimer's disease. SH-216
- 10:00 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and the Risk Management Agency, all of the Department of Agriculture. SD-138
- Appropriations  
Transportation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for AMTRAK, focusing on the future of AMTRAK. SD-192
- Labor and Human Resources  
To hold hearings to examine health care quality issues. SD-430
- 10:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Foreign Operations Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on infectious diseases. SD-124
- Appropriations  
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on drug addiction and recovery issues. SH-216
- MARCH 25
- 9:30 a.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Business meeting, to mark up S. 1415, to reform and restructure the processes by which tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed, to prevent the use of tobacco products by minors, and to redress the adverse health effects of tobacco use, and to consider other pending calendar business. SR-253
- Veterans Affairs  
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of AMVETS, the American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Retired Officers Association. 345 Cannon Building
- Indian Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine Indian gaming issues. SH-216
- 10:00 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Defense Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Army programs. SD-192
- MARCH 26
- 9:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Corp of Engineers, and the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior. SD-138
- Appropriations  
Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Office of National Drug Control Policy. SD-192
- Labor and Human Resources  
Children and Families Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on the Head Start education program. SD-430
- MARCH 31
- 9:30 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings on S. 1100, to amend the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, the legislation approving such covenant, and S. 1275, to implement further the Act (Public Law 94-241) approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America. SD-366
- 10:00 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Food and Drug Administration. SD-138
- Appropriations  
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Justice's counterterrorism programs. SD-192
- Labor and Human Resources  
To hold hearings to examine issues relating to charter schools. SD-430
- 10:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Foreign Operations Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on crime programs. Room to be announced
- 10:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Foreign Operations Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on the Caspian energy program. SD-124
- 2:30 p.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Water and Power Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on S. 1515, to amend Public Law 89-108 to increase authorization levels for State and Indian tribal, municipal, rural, and industrial water supplies, to meet current and future water quantity and quality needs of the Red River Valley, to deauthorize certain project features and irrigation service areas, and to enhance natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat. SD-366
- APRIL 1
- 9:30 a.m.  
Indian Affairs  
To hold oversight hearings on barriers to credit and lending in Indian country. SR-485
- 10:00 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Defense Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for Department of Defense medical programs. SD-192
- Judiciary  
Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine competition and concentration in the cable and video markets. SD-226
- 2:00 p.m.  
Appropriations  
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services. SD-124
- 2:30 p.m.  
Judiciary  
Immigration Subcommittee  
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business. SD-226
- APRIL 2
- 9:00 a.m.  
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
To hold hearings on S. 1323, to regulate concentrated animal feeding operations for the protection of the environment and public health. SR-332
- 10:00 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Transportation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine airline ticketing practices. SD-124
- APRIL 21
- 10:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Foreign Operations Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for foreign assistance, focusing on crime programs. Room to be announced

APRIL 22

9:30 a.m.

## Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Title V amendments to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975.

SR-485

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the Ballistic Missile Defense program.

SD-192

APRIL 23

9:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

## VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration

SD-138

APRIL 28

10:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for foreign assistance programs, focusing on Bosnia.

Room to be announced

APRIL 29

9:30 a.m.

## Indian Affairs

To resume hearings to examine Indian gaming issues.

Room to be announced

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Bosnian assistance.

SD-192

APRIL 30

9:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

## VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Council on Environmental Quality.

SD-138

MAY 5

10:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for foreign assistance programs.

Room to be announced

MAY 6

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the U.S. Pacific Command.

SD-192

MAY 7

9:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

## VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the National Science Foundation, and the Office of Science and Technology.

SD-138

MAY 11

2:00 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

MAY 13

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

## CANCELLATIONS

MARCH 12

10:00 a.m.

## Judiciary

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

MARCH 17

9:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Energy's environmental management program.

SD-116

10:00 a.m.

## Appropriations

## Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the United Nations.

S-146, Capitol

## POSTPONEMENTS

MARCH 12

2:00 p.m.

## Appropriations

## Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Energy.

SD-12